

Greetings:

I am writing to share my views on the proposed FCC rule changes. In short, these would be disastrous for freedom of speech, freedom of press, and for the general strength of democracy in this country. Already media conglomeration and corporate influence on media have weakened America's ability to consider differing perspectives, and, indeed, to receive reasonably broad news coverage. Many important news items are already kept from the public, perhaps because they are not in the interest of the owners of increasingly monopolized media.

It is inherently dangerous for one company to own both the leading daily newspaper (often the only daily newspaper) and a local TV station in the same city. This ownership arrangement puts too much power in the hands of one corporation-and it reduces the already small number of independent media voices we hear in our communities.

This is one of the most important issues confronting our nation this century. Please vote for democracy and freedom of speech, and against monopoly and corporate tyranny. Please join with all your colleagues and act now to stop big media from getting even bigger.

Sincerely,

Bruce Barrett MD PhD  
2038 Irwin Place  
Madison WI 53713